

World Exnumia

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RICH HARTZOG

11 Dec. 1997

Eric Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St Louis MO 63105

Dear Mr. Newman,

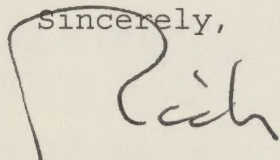
While we have met several times over the years, I don't expect you will recall me. I have sent you a couple of my auction catalogs, but not in recent years. You purchased Brunk's book on c/m from me back in 1987. I am a dealer in tokens and medals, and produce quality mail bid sales, and am a past Board member of TAMS.

Dr. Gregory Brunk, author of several books on counterstamped coins, has consigned his entire collection of some 1000 c/m for my sales. In the course of researching one piece, we have come to believe it may be a St. Louis issuer. In the 1981 book "St. Louis Silver-smiths", there is a brief mention of "A. Herbel, active 1821-53". I have a GOLD US \$2.5 of 1851-O, c/m "A. Herbel", in a silversmith-type bar punch. Due to extremely few known c/m on gold coins, we believe this to be a highly important (and thus, high value) piece.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of any information in the book, and my distance from St. Louis, I am unable to confirm this c/m is in fact from this issuer. Do you have any information on Herbel? Could you direct me to anyone who might have such, or be in a position to research him further? Ideally, I'd like to see the silversmith mark of Herbel, to confirm this coin was marked by him. I contacted the MO Historical Society and the St. Louis Art Museum, with minimal results.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,



Rich Hartzog

